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Contractor Workshop Draws Large Ramadi Turnout

By Norris Jones Gulf Region Central

RAMADI, Iraq – Representatives from several Ramadi construction firms attended a seminar May 17 to learn about U.S. Army Corps of Engineer bid submittal requirements for proposed contracts.

The "Contractor Workshop" was attended by 24 Iraqis and was hosted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Gulf Region Division Central (GRC) District, at the Ramadi Joint Coordination Center.

Navy Lt. Cmdr. Arturo Aseo, Officer-in-Charge of GRC's Ramadi Resident Office, coordinated the event. Those providing the detailed information were GRC contract specialist Dan Cahill, and Bilingual Bicultural Advisor Saber Qader (assigned to the GRC Al Anbar Area Office from the U.S. State Department).

Topics included accessing solicitation websites, such as:

www.baghdadbusinesscenter.org;

how to read and understand government solicitation requirements; the key steps in the USACE contracting process from initial scope of work to contract award; how to create a winning proposal; complying with basic construction safety requirements; adhering to the Defense Base Act (DBA) insurance requirements; and the need for accurate Electronic Fund Transfer information for payment purposes.

A Question and Answer session followed the presentation where contractors were able to ask questions of the subject matters experts Aseo, Cahill and Qader.



Navy Commander Geoffrey Schuller and Al Anbar Governor Ma'amoun.

(U.S. Army photo by Norris Jones)

The contractors were provided an information packet with copies of the discussed material translated into Arabic and a compact disc with electronic copies of regulations and other information.

The USACE GRC Resident Office who hosted the event in Ramadi currently oversees 32 projects valued at approximately \$42 million which include projects such as the installation of new electric distribution lines and substations, electric generation plants, renovations of the Kabeer potable water treatment plant, and construction of smaller water treatment plants in villages outside Ramadi.

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